

LEARNING WITH LUKE 20:1-8 “TIME FOR AUTHORITY” P. 1045 PEW BIBLE

Luke 20:1-8 - as Jesus was teaching in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests with the scribes and the elders came up and said to Him, “Tell us by what authority You do these things.”

1- THE SHOWDOWN - good question

Luke 20:1-2 - the powers that be
Luke 19:47-48 - seeking to destroy
Matt 21:4-17,23-27 - Jesus' actions
Mark 11:1-11,27-33 - Jesus' authority

The true temple had come to the temple. Jesus' cleansing signaled the destruction of the temple, and His sovereign role as the temple of His people. He taught not with derived authority, but His own divine authority. -RK Hughes

2- THE QUESTIONS - their own trap

Luke 20:3-4 - John's baptism
Luke 1:76-77 - John's mission
Luke 3:16-22 - John's message
John 1:19-42 - John's testimony
John 5:30-47 - John's authority
Luke 7:16-36 - John's question

If Jesus claimed to operate by His own authority, He could be charged with blasphemy; if He said no authority, He would discredit Himself as a maverick. But His questioners would not answer the question about the authority of John the Baptist, because they did not accept his baptism nor his message of repentance and faith in Jesus as God's Messiah. They were not concerned with truth but with the consequences of public opinion. -RC Sproul

3- THE NON-ANSWER - tables turned

Luke 20:5-6 - what's their logic
Luke 20:7 - coward's way out
Prov 26:4-5 - answering fools
Matt 7:6 - pearls before swine
1Pet 3:14-17 - make a defense
Col 4:2-6 - know how to answer
Col 1:9-23, 2:1-10 - divine authority

Jesus didn't just answer questions, He answered the questioner. He knew why the questioner was asking. We must learn to listen to the questioner, to recognize pigs, wolves, sheep, and deceptive inquisitors. We must learn to answer so as to silence deceitful critics in their inconsistencies. -SB Ferguson

4- THE AUTHORITY - Sovereign God

Luke 20:8 - neither will I tell you
Luke 4:31-44 - authority to teach & heal
Luke 5:24-25 - authority to forgive sins
John 5:18-29 - authority to give spiritual life
Matt 28:18-20 - all authority to give others

The self-righteous and the worldly-minded dislike the ways of the Master. If the servants of Christ wait till the world approves our plans and is satisfied with the propriety of our efforts, we shall soon come to an entire standstill. -JC Ryle

5- YOUR RESPONSE - receive Him as Lord & Savior

John 17:1-3 - authority to give eternal life
John 1:11-13 - authority to become children of God
2Cor 5:20 - authority as ambassadors of Christ

Make up your mind to be treated like the Master. In the world, faithful ministers of the gospel may have tribulation, but there is One in heaven who keeps account of all their labor, and they are not forgotten by Christ. -JC Ryle

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9-12 **Luke 20:1-8** - what authority?
9-13 **Luke 19:41-48** - to destroy Him
9-14 **John 1:19-42** - John's testimony
9-15 **Luke 4:31-41** - to teach & heal
9-16 **John 5:18-47** - to give spiritual life
9-17 **Matt 28:18-20** - all authority given
9-18 **Col 4:2-6** - know how to answer

The Spirit of God works the Word of God so the people of God become like the Son of God

♦ How will I be **transformed**, by God's truth, in the Spirit's power, as I trust & obey?

